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Atty Dkt: F-8709

Identifier: Kyoung Min SHIN, et al.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claim 1 as being anticipated by Yim (KR 20-0314211) and asserted that the claim is unpatentable over Thompson (US 5876448) as modified by Porter (US 5064435).

To overcome the obviousness rejection, Applicant has amended the claim to recite that the secondary unit is disposed between each end of the primary unit. In comparison, Thompson does not teach the secondary unit as acknowledged by the Examiner and Porter does not teach a secondary unit disposed between the ends of the primary unit. Accordingly, the references do not teach that the secondary unit is disposed between each end of the primary unit and the claim is not rendered unpatentable by the references.

To overcome the anticipation rejection, Applicant has amended the claim to recite that the secondary unit is fixed to the primary unit. Support for this amendment is found on page 5, line 25. In comparison, Yim teaches that the secondary unit 15 is removable from the primary unit. That is, according to Yim, the secondary unit 15 connected to a high frequency generator 30 and electric power is supplied to the generator 30. The contacted lesion is thereby cauterized

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and necrotized and then the body 15 is removed from the coated primary unit by drawing a wire 31.

On the other hand, the claimed invention provides an uncoated secondary unit that is contacted with the lesion to reliably hold at the target portion of the contracted gullet for a desired lengthy period of time without being undesireably removed from the target portion regardless of outside pressure caused from coughing or ingestion.

Accordingly, Yim fails to teach a secondary unit that is fixed to the primary unit so that the amended claim is not anticipated by the reference.

The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

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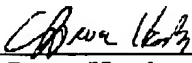
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